# 2022

## Number 4

NCNA *Journal*

# NCNA Journal

Volume 48 2022 Number 4

**2022 NCNA Convention & Show takes the Cake!**

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# *Writing for the* NCNA Journal

The *NCNA Journal* welcomes original articles on all facets of numismatics; articles related to North Carolina numismatics are particularly encouraged. Submission of previously published articles will be considered on a case-by-case basis; prior publication source should be noted at time of submission. The NCNA reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, format and/or content.

Digital copies of submissions are preferred; they should be sent via email to: ghcheek@earthlink.net. Typewritten articles are also accepted; they should be sent to: Greg Cheek, PO Box 185, Yadkinville, NC 27055.

The inclusion of images in support of a submitted article is very much appreciated. Digital images of 300 dpi (or higher) are preferred. Files in JPG format are preferred. Please contact the editor before sending images in other formats. Questions regarding images should be directed to the editor. ***PLEASE NOTE: The copyright for all images submitted must be owned by the submitter; submission of images downloaded from the internet without prior permission is not acceptable.***

Authors of articles submitted are eligible for the NCNA's **Bason Literary Award**. It is given each year in recognition of outstanding contributions to the *NCNA Journal* and/or other numismatic publications.

# *Advertising in the Journal*

Advertisement artwork should be submitted in "camera ready" digital form (300 dpi or greater) whenever possible; a clean business card can be submitted for one-third page ad requests. A $35 charge will be incurred if the NCNA is required to design an advertisement prior to its publication. Payment is due prior to the first insertion.

**Advertising Rates**

| | One Insertion | Annual (4x) |
|---|---|---|
| One-Third Page | $20 | $60 |
| Half Page | $30 | $100 |
| Full Page | $60 | $200 |
| Back Cover (Full Color) | N/A | $300 |

**Submission Deadlines for Articles and Advertisements**

Issue 1 – February 1
Issue 2 – May 1
Issue 3 – August 1
Issue 4 – November 1

# NCNA Journal

*The Official Publication of the North Carolina Numismatic Association*

Volume 48 2022 Number 4

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The *NCNA Journal* is published four times per year by the North Carolina Numismatic Association. The opinions expressed in the articles published are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the North Carolina Numismatic Association or the Editor.

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# President's Message

Greetings fellow Numismatists!

I hope that you were able to enjoy the holiday season with family and friends. We're now well into 2023, looking forward to many promising local and regional shows on the horizon.

We are excited to share that we had a very successful 2022 NCNA Convention and Show this past October. Highlights of the convention and show can be found on page 7. We are already looking forward to and planning for the 2023 Convention and Show.

## Time to renew your NCNA Membership 2023!

Yes, it's that time of year again to renew your membership in the NCNA. We hope that you will renew as soon as you can by sending in the enclosed membership renewal form insert. You want to be sure that you continue to receive the NCNA Journal each quarter. Read "News from the Secretary and Treasurer" on page 5 for more information on joining or renewing your NCNA membership.

Also consider helping a young numismatist connect with the **NCNA Young Numismatist Scholarship Program** this year**.** This NCNA program **helps provide full tuition funding for one young collector each year to attend the ANA Summer Seminar** held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Young collectors and their parents should consider this great opportunity. Local clubs are also encouraged to nominate deserving young club members as well. We did not have any applicants by the deadline for the 2023 summer seminar. However, we hope that candidates will **submit applications by the December 31, 2023 deadline in order to be considered for the 2024 ANA Summer Seminar**. More information regarding the NCNA Scholarship Program can be found on the NCNA website at ***www.NCNA.CLUB/yn-program***. Please email Bob Pedolsky, our NCNA YN Coordinator, at rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com if you have any questions regarding the scholarship application process or the program itself.

The NCNA Officers and Board of Directors look forward to serving the NCNA membership again in 2023. Please reach out to us with your ideas that could help with local club efforts and new opportunities to help promote the hobby. See page 50 for contact information for NCNA officers and board members.

Best regards and happy hunting!
Greg

# News from the Secretary & Treasurer

Halbert Carmichael is the NCNA Treasurer, and Bill Graves is the NCNA Secretary.

If you have questions regarding payment of your NCNA membership, please email Halbert at ***hhcarmichael@mindspring.com***. Halbert will continue to take care of all incoming membership applications/payments and other financial matters for the NCNA.

Please direct all NCNA membership renewals and payments to Halbert at following address: **Halbert Carmichael /NCNA**
**PO Box 5625**
**Raleigh, NC 27605**

Halbert will pass along your membership information to Bill Graves, as Bill maintains the NCNA membership records. Bill is also available to assist you with inquiries regarding membership status. You can send him an email at ***eaglecoinclub1@aol.com*.**

Be watchful for important updates posted by Halbert and Bill in this section of the Journal. They both want to thank all of you who have renewed your NCNA membership in 2023! **If you've not done so yet, please renew yours as soon as you can so that you'll continue to receive the NCNA Journal**.

PLEASE NOTE: Look at the MAILING ADDRESS LABEL on your JOURNAL envelope! The label shows the year that your NCNA membership dues are paid through. **If it indicates 2022 or before, your membership renewal is due now**. If it shows 2023 or after, your membership dues are good through that year.

Are you a young numismatist or do you know a young numismatist who might be interested in applying for our NCNA YN Scholarship?
If so, please contact Bob Pedolsky, our NCNA YN Coordinator at rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com.

# Notes from the Editor's Desk

Once again in this edition of the NCNA Journal, we have our usual cast of contributors along with a new "first-timer". You'll find them all interesting and informative!

Mark Welker is our first time contributor with an article entitled ***The Chemistry of Coins.*** Mark reviews the various metals used to produce U.S. coins, along with their distinguishing characteristics.

Charles Derby returns with ***Confederate Treasury Notes: The Signers and Their Stories.*** Mark and co-author Michael McNeil recently published a book with the same title. It highlights the Confederacy's employment of women as signers of Confederate notes.

Mark Benvenuto, 2022 winner of the Autence Bason Literary Award, presents ***A Dime Type Set: Two Centuries of Great Looking Small Silver.*** Mark shares some worthwhile considerations in assembling a type set of U.S Mint issued dimes.

In this issue of the NCNA Journal, Perry Siegel features NCNA board member Paul Horner in ***Getting to Know Your Board.***

Bill Graves goes ***On the Record*** with a review of a David Bowers book entitled "*American Numismatics Before the Civil War 1760-1860*". It is a very informative account of coin collecting activity in early America.

Bob Pedolsky and Paul Horner share ***Young Numismatist Highlights from the 2022 NCNA Convention and Show.*** Read on for a great recap of all of the young collector activities at the convention and show.

In this edition of ***The Ancient Guy***, Perry submits ***Personifications on Roman Coins*** for our enjoyment. This article provides great examples of allegorical personifications which were carefully chosen to represent cultural virtues and concepts on Roman coins.

Danny Freeman is in true form in the latest edition of ***A Blast from the Past.*** He provides some impassioned commentary on how politics has influenced the selection of designs on U.S. coins over the last 100 years.

Please take time to enjoy each great article. Also consider submitting an article on one of your favorite numismatic topics as well!

Until next time – Greg

# 2022 NCNA Convention Recap

By Perry Siegel and Greg Cheek

We are pleased to report that the 2022 **NCNA Convention & Coin Show held September 30 through October 2** was a great success in spite of the adverse weather conditions associated with Hurricane Ian Friday of the show! The show was held again at the Cabarrus Arena and Events Center on NC Highway 49 in Concord, NC. This was our sixth straight year at this site and we are planning to hold the convention there again in 2023. Bourse Chair Perry Siegel and the convention team put together another outstanding show, with 150 dealer tables and dealers from 12 states.

We wish the best to the people who were unfortunately hit hard, and hope that they have recovered from the storm. We were very fortunate in the Charlotte area. Attendance was a little off on Friday, although anyone who braved the rain was there to buy! Saturday was very busy and just about every dealer had an overall successful show. We had several new dealers who have already signed up for 2023, and should have another very diverse group of dealers for our 65th anniversary show. We asked show attendees to vote for their favorite dealer as they left the show on Friday. Many dealers received votes, with Tom Wood receiving the most votes in a very close contest. He wore the medal we presented to him, just as Bill Watts did last year as our very first winner.

Overall, we are excited with how our show has improved and expanded over the past few years. We have more ideas in the works for 2023, and hope to see you there!

## Show Attendance

Show turnout was very good with well over 850 folks in attendance over the 3 day show. We were again blessed with an experienced and dedicated group of volunteers from several local clubs, who enthusiastically worked the public registration tables. Their efforts greatly contributed to smooth entry to the show. Volunteers were from the Charlotte Coin Club, Gaston Coin Club, Statesville Coin Club, Winston-Salem Coin Club, Eagle Coin Club, Triad Coin Club, and Raleigh Coin Club.

## Highlights from the Young Collector's Zone

On Saturday and Sunday, the "Young Collector's Zone" was hosted by Bob Pedolsky, our NCNA YN Coordinator. The "**Treasure Hunt**" once again proved to be a big "hit" with the young collectors. Bob also

provided other numismatic games and educational activities that were enjoyed by all young collectors and parents who attended the show. Plenty of numismatic prizes were awarded to all who participated in the Young Collectors Zone this year.

On both Saturday and Sunday, Bob also presented a great program entitled "Coin Hoards and Treasure Discoveries" for the young collectors.

While we were not able to conduct the Boy Scout Merit Badge this year, we plan to bring back this popular activity for the 2023 Show and Convention.

One of the most exciting YN events during the convention, was the **auction of donated coins to raise funds for the NCNA YN Scholarship Program**. The winning bid came from Independence Coin, represented by Brian Trietley. Congratulations and many thanks to the guys at Independence Coin for their generous bid!

## Educational Exhibits

For the NCNA Convention, the educational exhibit area was filled with a very diverse and interesting arrangement of collectables, including currency, coins, tokens, and medals. We want to especially thank Paul Horner, who coordinated the exhibit area. Special thanks are also in order for the exhibitors that provided high quality educational exhibits! The exhibit area was well visited and many voted for their favorite.

"WWII OPA Tokens" garnered the most votes for adult exhibits, with "The Eagles of Christian Gobrecht" coming in 2nd, and "Early Dated European Coins" taking 3rd place.

There were even two YN exhibits! Refer to the ***Young Collector's News*** article in this edition of the NCNA Journal more on that. New and young collectors are encouraged to consider exhibiting at the convention in 2023. We can always assist with getting you started. Just let us know.

## Educational Seminars

The Convention also featured five excellent educational seminars. We want to especially thank Paul Landsberg for lining up the great speakers

and programs. The educational presentations on Friday and Saturday were well attended.

At 11:00 on Friday, Paul Horner presented "Did You Hear What Happened in New Orleans?" Bob Schreiner followed at Noon with "The Scrip Rider - Adventures of a traveling man with money in his pockets". Sanford Steelman closed out the programs at 1:00 with "British Coronation Medals, Charles I through Elizabeth II".

At Noon on Saturday David Boitnott presented "Collecting Charlotte Gold." Tom Wood closed out the seminars at 1:00 with "Coins of the Holy Land."

What an excellent group of presenters! The NCNA is always looking for new speakers. If you have a special collecting interest in the hobby, please consider sharing your passion by presenting at the 2023 NCNA Convention.

## NCNA General Membership Meeting

The annual NCNA General Membership meeting was held on Saturday, October 1 at 8:30am. A continental breakfast with light refreshments was provided before and during the meeting. Highlights of the meeting include the installment of the 2022-2023 NCNA Officers and Board of Directors and presentation of the annual NCNA awards.

### Installment of 2022/2023 Officers and Board of Directors

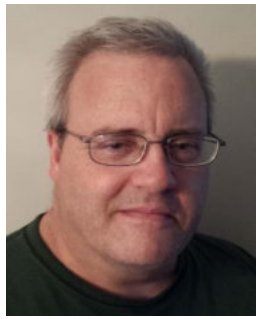
NCNA officers and board members were installed at the NCNA General meeting. Greg Cheek was re-elected as President, Perry Siegel was reelected as 1st Vice-President, Danny Freeman was re-elected as 2nd Vice-President, Halbert Carmichael was re-elected as Treasurer, and Bill Graves was re-elected as Secretary. Please refer to the complete list of NCNA officers and board members provided in the back of this issue of the NCNA Journal.

### Annual NCNA Awards

NCNA Awards were given to several individuals from across the state as they were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the hobby in North Carolina. NCNA president Greg Cheek presided over the ceremony. Please join us in congratulating these folks!

**Perry Siegel** received the highly regarded ***John Jay Pittman Award,*** the NCNA's ***"Numismatist of the Year"*** award. This award is given in recognition of outstanding and enduring contributions to numismatics in North Carolina. Perry was recognized for his many years of dedicated service in the NCNA, exemplified by his extraordinary leadership as bourse chair over the last 6 years.

The ***Forrest & Tessie Michael Volunteer Service Award*** was awarded to **Calvin Lindsey**. The award is given in recognition of outstanding volunteer service to benefit numismatics in North Carolina. Calvin was recognized for many years of dedicated leadership and service in the Cape Fear Coin Club.



**The *Bason Literary Award*** was presented to **Mark Benvenuto.** This Award is given each year in recognition of significant contributions to numismatic education through published works. Mark has become a regular contributor to the NCNA Journal in recent years. His articles are mostly focused on collecting "short sets" of U.S. coin series, with economy in mind. Mark's efforts reflect his passion for helping collectors consider various collecting angles.

The recipient of the ***President's Award*** is chosen by the awards committee at the recommendation of the NCNA President. In 2022, this award was presented to **Bill & Mark Thorton.** For many years, Bill and Mark have been very supportive of NCNA and local coins shows. They are being recognized for their continued willingness to share and help

educate all who they have interacted with at shows through the years. Unfortunately we lost Bill to illness late in 2022. Mark received the award at the convention in memory of Bill.

**Bill Graves** was also presented with the ***President's Award*** in 2022. Bill was recognized for his dedication to the hobby through his growing involvement and leadership in the NCNA and local coin clubs. Bill took on the job of NCNA Secretary in 2022, and is already making his mark with management and reporting of NCNA membership records.

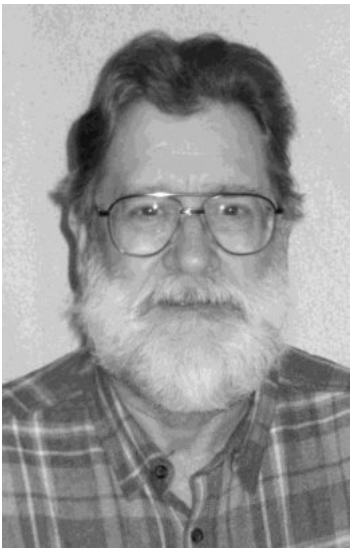
The ***Ted Hendrick Memorial Dealer Award***, jointly sponsored by the Raleigh Coin Club and the NCNA, was presented to **Gus Demetriades**. Gus is being recognized for his life time achievement and enduring dedication to the hobby as a local and regional coin dealer. This prestigious award was presented to Gus and his wife Vanessa by Raleigh Coin Club President David Boitnott and NCNA President Greg Cheek at the Raleigh Coin Show in November.

Unfortunately we did not have a ***Young Numismatist of the Year Award*** in 2022. However, we look to receive nominations for this award in 2023. Please contact NCNA YN Coordinator Bob Pedolsky if you know of a deserving young numismatist.

**A very successful Convention & Show in 2022!**
**See you in 2023!**

# Getting to Know Your NCNA Board

By Perry Siegel



Our newest board member, having joined in 2021, Paul Horner grew up in King, North Carolina. His interest in numismatics began in the third grade by collecting "Mercury" dimes from circulation, and he has been an involved collector ever since. In addition to the actual coins and currency, their history has always been of interest. He has developed a diverse numismatic library, including many topics not represented in the objects he collects. For many years, the obsolete currency and scrip of North Carolina have been of special interest. Collecting in this area has its own special challenges. Unlike coins, published information on the banks and their notes and the various scrip issues is sparse. Consequently, collecting information about the notes and scrip has become as essential and compelling as collecting the notes themselves. Numerous trips to the North Carolina State Archives and to museums and libraries around the state have revealed many secrets.

Horner supplements his archival research with population data he has amassed at countless coin shows, where he is never without his notebook of note varieties, serial numbers, and other data. In 2001 he partnered with Jerry Roughton in researching, writing and co-publishing the *North Carolina Numismatic Scrapbook*, a periodical with over 500 accumulated pages. Over its run of 14 years, much previously lost material on North Carolinas' obsolete paper money was rediscovered and publicized in the *Scrapbook.*

Paul is a member of *NCNA*, the *Raleigh Coin Club*, a life member of the *Society of Paper Money Collectors* and a relatively new member of the *ANA*. He was a past recipient of the NCNA Autence Bason Literary Award in 2016, 2020, and 2021. He has written and co-authored articles for *Paper Money, South Eastern Token Society,* and *Sport Aviation.* Paul was a contributor to the North Carolina section of *Vol. 6 of the Whitman Encyclopedia of Obsolete Paper Money,* and other articles on North

Carolina paper money. Along with paper money, US type and pattern coinage and their history are of interest, with several articles appearing in these pages. Horner is your new NCNA exhibit chair and hopes to generate more interest in exhibiting in our organization. Feel free to reach out to him to exhibit at our 2023 convention!

Along with coins and paper money, Paul has a few muscadine grape vines, no wine, he just wants to eat some along with the birds. Aviation has been a lifelong passion, especially vintage aircraft. He plays the tuba in Moravian brass bands on vintage instruments as both a passion and expression of his Christian faith. And, one last interest is collecting books on *phrenology:* with over 50 authors and 100 volumes he likely has one of the largest libraries on the topic in Davie County!

## *About the Cover for this issue of the NCNA Journal …*

In this issue of the NCNA Journal we celebrate the successful 2022 NCNA Convention & Show. As Thursday was the official setup day, the dealers were treated to an excellent BBQ dinner, highlighted by the extremely popular "brisket." 2022 marked the 64th year for the convention and show, and the cover features one of the delicious cakes baked for the occasion!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# ON THE RECORD

By Bill Graves, NCNA Secretary

For this issue I decided to make a little detour, and focus on another amazing work of Q. David Bowers.

While at a recent coin show I was able to pick up signed copy #700, of David's 1998 book, "*American Numismatics Before the Civil War 1760-1860.*" What a wonderful work this is! Dr. Joel J. Orosz states in the forward that "Q. David Bowers, has been, since first hanging his shingle as a coin dealer in 1953, God's gift to the numismatic publishing market". Joel adds that this particular volume, which traces the life story of Augustus B. Sage, arguably one of the leaders at the forefront of modern numismatics, is a fascinating look into his outstanding work regarding tokens and medallic issues of the time.

Sage was the first American to write a continuing numismatic column in a periodical publication, and for a time, was the pre-eminent auction cataloger. He issued over two dozen varieties of tokens and medals as part of what may have been the first successful private American effort to create for collectors and subscribers a series of related topical or commemorative medals.

Augustus B. Sage was born in Middletown, CT, on May 13, 1841. At the age of 13, "A.B. Sage," was earning wages as a primary grade teacher or assistant in Ward School No. 12 at 371 Madison Street in the Seventh Ward, where he remained for the next several years. It seems probable that by 1856, when Augustus B. Sage was only 15 years old, he had been bitten by the coin bug. The recorded story of Augustus B. Sage's hobby-profession seems to commence circa 1856, although tradition has it that Sage may have played a part in the sale of the Peter Flandin Collection at the auction room of Bangs & Co. in June 1855. Perhaps he helped with the catalog as he was not listed as a buyer. About the year 1857 Sage became prominent in numismatics in New York City. The discontinuation of the copper cent and half cent created a nationwide wave of nostalgia, and all of a sudden, thousands of people wanted to learn more. The New-York Dispatch took a particular interest, and in 1857 Augustus, now 17 years old, using his youthful knowledge and enthusiasm plus extensive reading, set forth to educate readers of the Dispatch. He became a popular columnist—the first in American numismatic history – and his column drew wide interest. Although it is hard to imagine today, in 1857 and 1858 there were no books at all on federal coins. By 1858 Augustus Sage started dealing in coins in a small way, with Henry Bogert as a partner. Tokens and medals interested him in particular. There were no clubs or organizations except the Philadelphia Numismatic Society, which had been organized in January, but had not yet accomplished much.

On March 8, 1858, five socially-minded numismatists in New York—Augustus B. Sage, Henry O. Hart, James D. Foskett, Edward Groh, and James Oliver—affixed their names to a circular letter which invited interested collectors to meet at Sage's family residence, rooms upstairs at 121 Essex Street, New York City, at 7:30 p.m., March 15, to establish what became the American Numismatic Society. Today the ANS names a special club, the Augustus B. Sage Society, in his honor and also has a wonderful collection of his medalets and other pieces.

In 1858, Augustus Sage was caught up in the great excitement that accompanied the completion of the Atlantic Cable, which transmitted its first message on August 5, 1858. New York went wild, a vast celebration and fireworks display was staged, and a new era was ushered in. Sage set about sponsoring a medal, created by diesinker George H. Lovett, an acquaintance who worked nearby and at the same time produced tokens. In the autumn, Sage launched his own series of tokens, the first called the Odds and Ends series, beginning with the Crystal Palace. These sold modestly, but the Morphy token did not find many buyers. His later series did better, including his Historical Tokens with Revolutionary War and related motifs, his Numismatic Gallery with the portraits of well-known collectors, and, to a lesser extent, Masonic tokens. In addition, Sage produced store cards. All of the above were issued from 1858 to 1860. Later, Lovett made restrikes of some of the Historical and Masonic series pieces.

In August 1862, with the Civil War raging, Sage joined the Union Army as a Captain in the New York Infantry Volunteers' 170th Regiment. Sage's first stint in the military service was cut short, however, when he was forced to resign due to ill health in December 1862. By July of 1863 he had recovered sufficiently to return to service, where he served with distinction and rose to the rank of Colonel before submitting his final resignation in December 1863. After leaving the military, Sage returned to New York City where he became a lawyer. There are few indications that Sage had any significant contact with the ANS after his return to New York, other than a series of reminiscences on the formation of the ANS, which he wrote for the American Journal of Numismatics in 1867, and a few dies and catalogs which he donated that same year. Sage died from pneumonia on February 19, 1874 at the age of 32.

In summary; this is a must reference for the serious collector of early copper, medals and tokens, as it traces so much of the genesis of the total category. The book is filled with excellent drawings, illustrations, and historical insight.

Do yourself a favor and hunt down a copy of this great work of art!

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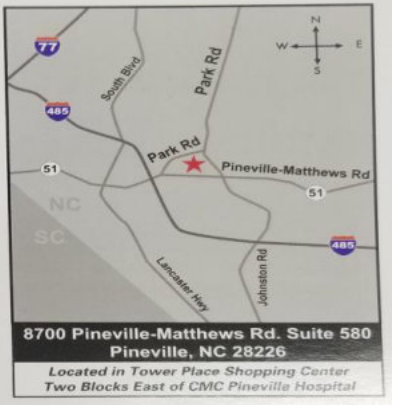


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# The Chemistry of Coins

By Mark Welker

As most of you probably know, coins are made of chemicals. Sometimes in the past they were made of single elements such as gold, silver, copper, nickel, zinc, tin, etc. but now more commonly coins are made of alloys or homogeneous mixtures of elements.

The oldest known coins have been traced back to the kingdom of Lydia which was a part of today's Turkey. These earliest coins, called staters, are alloys of gold and silver with a little copper. This alloy is known as electrum (an alloy gold containing at least 20% silver). The Lydians were lucky that the Pactolus River contained alluvial deposits of gold with up to 40% silver and 1-2% copper. These early coins all contain the Lydian king's emblem of a roaring lion.

***Image courtesy of www.fleur-de-coin.com.***

***Image courtesy of www.teachhistory100.org.***

The ancient Greeks used mainly silver for the minting of their drachms. These coins were typically issued by city states and each city had its own badge on its coins. Athens was the city of owls hence the badge in the silver tetradrachm shown on the left. While early coins were many times silver or gold or their alloys, humans quickly realized that harder metals had value for coins as well as for tools and weapons.

Many of you may be familiar with Moh's Hardness Scale for Minerals and Elements. Hardness or softness has a big impact on the durability of coins when subjected to use. Hardness is defined as the ability to withstand surface indentation and scratching. For frame of reference, diamond (a form of carbon) is at the top of typical mineral hardness scale at a rating of 10 and talc (a mixture of magnesium, silicon and water) is at the bottom with a rating of 1. Tin is the softest of typical coinage metals at 1.5 but gold, silver, and zinc are also quite soft at 2.5. Nickel at

4, and copper at 3 have a bit more durability. Bronze is an alloy made up of about 90:10 copper: tin and with a hardness of 3 it (along with brass, a copper-zinc alloy) was also commonly used in early Greek and Roman coins.

A chemical property other than hardness which needs to be considered for coinage is chemical reactivity. Aside from its rarity and softness, another appealing coinage characteristic of gold is its resistance to oxidation. All of us have seen the black tarnish on silver which is silver sulfide, the green patina that builds up on copper roofs which originates from copper sulfide, and of course rust (iron oxide) which has contributed to the relatively rare use of iron WWII (1943 steel US cents being one example) in coinage.

Other than hardness and low chemical reactivity, coin producers have always had to pay attention to the intrinsic value of the metal. Ideal chemical properties of the coin won't matter if the intrinsic value of the metal in the coin exceeds its face value. In that circumstance, coins are removed from circulation and melted. The current U.S. clad coinage resulted from one of those circumstances, i.e. high silver prices in the early 1960's. Since 1965, the U.S. has heavily used what is referred to as clad coinage. In our case, this is typically a thin copper-nickel alloy over a pure copper core. Dimes, quarters and half dollars all have this composition and the picture to the right of a damaged clad dime demonstrates the concept of clad coins well. Current pennies are also clad and contain a thin layer of copper over a zinc core. Pennies minted up to 1982 are currently at a point where the intrinsic value of copper in them exceeds their face value and they are disappearing from circulation. Nickels are our only high circulation non clad coin, being made from a 25% copper-nickel alloy.

***Image courtesy of www.thefuntimesguide.com.***

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- *https://www.fleur-de-coin.com/articles/oldest-coin*
- *http://teachinghistory100.org/images/uploads/article/49-about-object.jpg*
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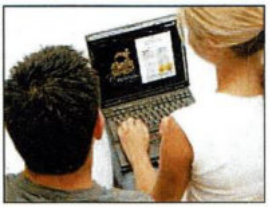

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# A Dime Type Set:
## Two Centuries of Great Looking Small Silver

By Mark Benvenuto

There are plenty of type sets a person might assemble, but it's probably fair to say that many of us go for the big guys in the arena, the big silver coins. After all, half dollars and silver dollars are fun. But that certainly leaves plenty of room for any of us who want to look at the little guys, meaning the dimes. Our current design hasn't changed in decades, but that might mean we can actually go pretty far back with ten-cent pieces and not spend a fortune in the process. Let's see just what might be available.

### Proof Roosevelts: 1992 to date

When the Mint got back into the production of proofs with the same silver content that had vanished from circulating coins in 1964, they did it in a big way. There are enough of these modern, silver proof sets out there that just about any collector can score a bunch. The Mint has not pounded out a million of these silver proofs each year, but the number is always high enough that they can be considered common. If we want a lone, proof dime that falls into this category, we'll probably be getting one that has been broken out of a set and slabbed by some third-party grading service. But whether buying a certified version or a raw coin, the modern, silver proof Roosevelts are always quite affordable. Twenty dollars will go a long way here towards getting a handsome looking first piece for any type set we'd like to assemble.

### Proof Roosevelts: Pre-1965

The Mint got a proof set program up and running in 1950, and ramped up from a modest mintage of 51,386 that year to over 1 million in 1957. Curiously, even what we can call the scarce dates in this run of proofs are not all that expensive. Certainly, if we want to hunt down a specimen in the highest grades, like PF-67, we'll have to pay more for it. But where we have already mentioned that $20 will go a long way for the modern silver proofs, in the 1950 to 1964 time span, $50 might do the trick. Still, that's not too bad when we think of adding a vintage proof Roosevelt to our growing type set.

### Proof Mercury

Yes, there are some proof Mercury dimes out there, which might surprise some of us. The Mint began what many collectors consider the modern era of proof coins with the small number of proof sets it issued in 1936 – only 4,130 of them. It did continue pounding out proofs through 1942, when other matters that were quite important most likely took precedence.

As might be expected, a proof dime from 1936 is going to be a pretty expensive example of Mr. Weinman's famous Mercury or Winged Liberty image. But there are some interesting facts associated with this seven-year span of proofs. First, their overall output did increase each year, with 1940 seeing the first year of five figures, 11,827 pieces to be exact. Second, 1942 was able to claim a tally of 22,329 proofs, which is considered tiny by today's standards, but which was pretty big for its time. Third, and probably most important, the price tags for the 1940, the 1941, and the 1942 proof Mercury dimes are all far, far lower than for the 1936, even though we probably consider all of them rare. Examples of any of those three in a grade like PF-65 cost only about $200 each. This trio of proofs, at least, is definitely undervalued. Any one of them could be a great addition to any collection of dimes, type set or otherwise.

## High End Barber

Believe it or not, there are some proof Barber dimes to be had. Most collectors know this design was used on the dimes, quarters, and half dollars from 1892 up to 1916. But fewer of us are aware that there were some proof versions of these dimes made every year they were produced, less only the 1916. The numbers here are truly tiny, with only the year 1892 seeing a mintage of more than one thousand. But much like the three Mercs we just mentioned, these proof Barber dimes are undervalued. Admittedly, each one will cost about $600, and in the rather odd grade of PF-63 no less. But can we imagine any other classic United States silver with this tiny a mintage that costs this little? Sure, we might have to save up for one of these, but what an addition to a collection.

## Seated Liberty: One from Among Decades

The Seated Liberty design of Mr. Christian Gobrecht graced our nation's silver coinage for decades in the nineteenth century. In the case of our ten-cent pieces, the span was from 1837 all the way to 1891. No less a reference than the "Red Book" – Mr. Yeoman's, "A Guide Book of United States Coins" – indicates that there were some proofs made for many of the years, starting with 1859. But it's tough to find any monthly price lists that give estimated prices for them.

If uncertainty over the price tag for a Seated Liberty dime makes us pause, maybe the way to go about adding one of these to a growing collection is to pick a price, then see what might fit. An example might be starting with $100, and seeing what that might purchase for us. Good news here is that plenty of the common dates among these dimes do cost about $100 in a grade like AU-50. That's not bad for a piece that is well over a century old.

**Capped Bust: True Classics**

Plenty of collectors tend to avoid coins of the Capped Bust series, no matter what the denomination, simply because we perceive them to be too expensive. In an interesting twist, the Capped Bust dimes can be broken into two sections. From 1809 to 1828, they were struck in what is called an open collar. In 1828, and up to the end of the series in 1837, the closed collar was used. This latter group includes a majority of dates for which a very fine, or VF-20, specimen costs only about $150. Once again this is not a bad price for such a classic coin.

**Draped Bust: Dream the Impossible Dream?**

Prior to the Capped Bust design, the young United States Mint certainly made dimes. The folks at the Mint got started all the way back in 1796. It's just that they never made many of them. And that means the cost of any of the Draped Bust dimes is always going to be rather amazingly high. Even worn examples, like those in very good condition, or VG-8, will cost a few thousand dollars. If that is too rich for our blood, to use a classic phrase, well, we can simply stick with those dimes we have just mentioned. Whatever the case however, we have seen that there are some great possibilities when it comes to assembling a type set of United States dimes.

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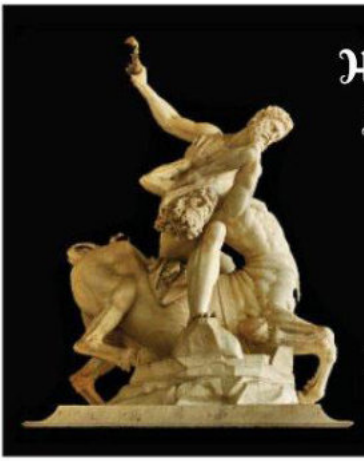

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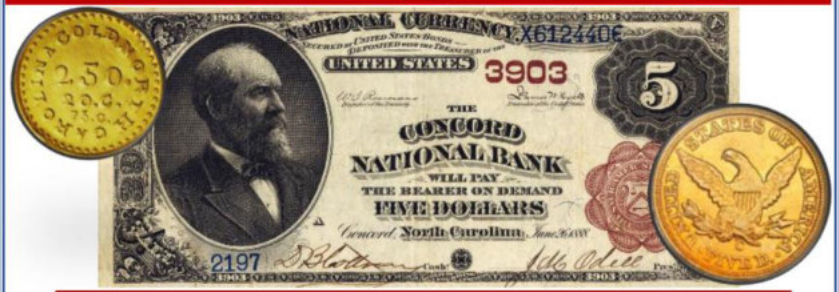


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# COIN SHOW CALENDAR

**Please note that shows listed below are subject to change or cancellation. Be sure to check for updates for these shows with show promoters or on the NCNA Website prior to attending:**
**www.NCNA.club**

## NC

| | |
|---|---|
| **Feb. 10-11**<br>**Fr: 10a-6p**<br>**Sa: 10a-6p** | **Charlotte, NC**<br>*53rd Annual Charlotte Coin Club Show*<br>Park Expo and Conference Center<br>800 Briar Creek Rd.<br>Contact: Gregory Field – 704.293.4426 |
| **Mar. 11-12**<br>**Sa: 10a-5p**<br>**Su: 10a-3p** | **Raleigh, NC** (also Nov. 18-19))<br>*Carolina Coin & Stamp Show*<br>NC State Fairgrounds, Holshouser Bldg.<br>1025 Blue Ridge Blvd., 27607<br>Contact: Clayton Brewer - 910.574.4635 |
| **Mar. 18-19**<br>**Sa: 10a-5p**<br>**Su: 10a-3p** | **Statesville, NC**<br>*Statesville Coin & Currency Show*<br>Statesville Civic Center<br>300 S Center St<br>Contact: Bill Brewer – 704-450-1639 |
| **Mar. 26-27**<br>**Sa: 10a-5p**<br>**Su: 10a-4p** | **Jacksonville, NC** (also Oct. 14-15)<br>Jacksonville-Camp Lejeune Coin & Paper Money Show<br>Hilton Garden Inn<br>1016 Jacksonville Parkway, 28546<br>Contact: Calvin Lindsey - 910.548.3963 |
| **Apr. 15-16**<br>**Sa: 10a-6p**<br>**Su:10a-5p** | **Wilmington, NC**<br>*Annual N.C. Azalea Festival Coin Show*<br>Elks Lodge<br>5102 Oleander Drive<br>Contact: Don Butler – 910.612.3766 |
| **Apr. 22**<br>**Sa: 9a-5p** | **Lexington, NC**<br>*Eagle Coin Club Coin Show*<br>J. Smith Young YMCA<br>119 West 3rd Avenue, 27292<br>Contact: David Fine – 336-267-3638 |
| **Jun. 16-18**<br>**Fr : 10a-6p**<br>**Sa: 10a-5p**<br>**Su: 10a-3p** | **Raleigh, NC**<br>*Raleigh Money Expo – by Raleigh Coin Club*<br>North Carolina State Fairgrounds EXPO Center<br>4285 Trinity Road, 27607<br>Contact: Jeff McCauslin – 919.607.9371 |

## Attention show promoters!

**Send in your show information for the NCNA Journal to *ghcheek@earthlink.net* at least four months ahead of time.**

# NC

| | |
|---|---|
| **Aug. 12-13**<br>**Sa: 10a-5p**<br>**Su: 10a-3p** | **Statesville, NC**<br>*27th Annual Iredell-Statesville Coin Club Show*<br>Statesville Civic Center<br>300 South Center Street, 28677<br>Contact: Bill Brewer - 704.450.1639 |
| **Sep. 29-30**<br>**Oct. 1**<br>**Fr: 10a-6p**<br>**Sa: 10a-6p**<br>**Su: 10a-3p** | **Concord, NC**<br>***NCNA Convention and Coin Show***<br>**Cabarrus Arena and Events Center**<br>**4751 Highway 49 North, 28025**<br>**Contact: Perry Siegel – 704.488.4787** |

# SC

| | |
|---|---|
| **Feb. 17-19**<br>**Fr: 10a-5p**<br>**Sa: 10a-5p**<br>**Su: 10a-3p** | **Spartanburg, SC**<br>*53rd Upstate SC Coin Show*<br>Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium<br>385 N Church St, 29303<br>Contact: David Burzinski – 864.293.8416 |
| **May 5-6**<br>**Fr: 9a-5p**<br>**Sa: 9a-5p** | **Columbia , SC**<br>*Midlands Coin Club Spring Coin Show*<br>Embassy Suites Hotel<br>200 Stoneridge Drive, 29210<br>Contact: Mike Smith – 803.447.2443 |
| **Jul. 28-30**<br>**Fr: Noon-6p**<br>**Sa: 9a-6p**<br>**Su: 10a-3p** | **Ladson, SC**<br>*Low Country Summer Coin Show*<br>Exchange Park Fairgrounds<br>9850 Hwy. 78, 28456<br>Contact: Richard Smith – 843.797.1245 |

# VA

| | |
|---|---|
| **Feb. 18-19**<br>**Sa: 9a-5p**<br>**Su: 9a-4p** | **Virginia Beach, VA**<br>*Virginia Beach Coin Show (Tidewater Coin Club)*<br>Virginia Beach Convention Center<br>1000 19th Street<br>Contact: John Kolos – 757.331.1530 |
| **Mar 4-5**<br>**Sa: 9:30a-5:30p**<br>**Su: 9:30a-3:30p** | **Salem, VA** (also Jun. 3-4, Aug. 26-27)<br>*Salem/Roanoke Valley Coin Shows*<br>*A*merican Legion Post #3<br>710 Apperson Drive<br>Contact: Will Camp – 540.943.2267 |

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# Confederate Treasury Notes:
## The Signers and Their Stories

By Charles Derby and Michael McNeil

The Confederate Treasury made a consequential decision upon its inception: to have the Register and Treasurer hand-sign each and every printed Treasury note. With the idea that this would deter counterfeiting and that the war would be short, this decision seemed reasonable. The first series of Treasury notes numbered a few thousand, all of large denominations – $1000, $500, $100, and $50 – and they were signed by Treasurer Edward Elmore and Register Alexander Clitherall.

***Confederate Treasury Note T1, $1000, 1861, with hand-written signatures.***

The U.S. Treasury decided to use machine printed signatures on their "green back" Treasury notes, so U.S. Treasurer Francis Spinner and Register Lucius Chittenden did no hand-signing. If the war were short, this decision to require hand signatures would have had little consequence.

***U.S. Treasury Note Fr. 16c, $1, 1862, with machine-printed signatures.***

However, the war dragged on for four years, and in the end, the Confederacy printed over $1.5 billion in Treasury notes, many in small denominations of $1 to $20. This meant that the Treasurer and Register would have needed to sign nearly 80 million notes, totaling 160 million hand-signatures. This was clearly impossible. So they established a Treasury Note Division to not only contract printing of notes but also for clerks to sign, cut, number, date, and trim them.

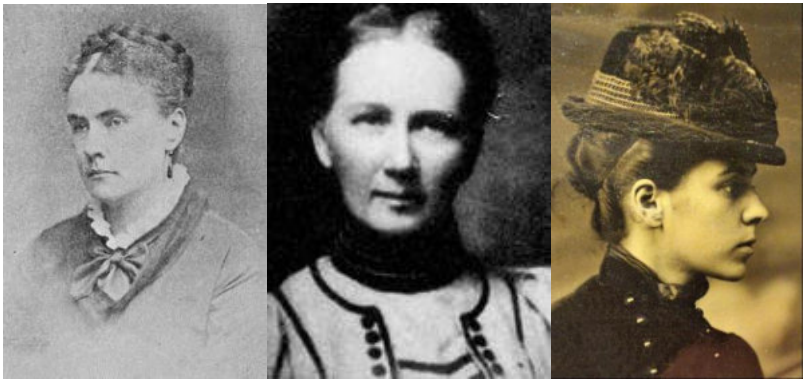
At first, the Treasury Department hired 19 men as civil servants, working in pairs, to sign notes. As the war progressed, however, many more men were hired. Indeed, with men needed in the army, the Treasury began to do what it never had before: hire women in government positions. Over the course of the war, the Confederacy hired 367 clerks to sign their Treasury notes, and many more to handle other Treasury jobs. By April 1864, all signing clerks were women. In total, two-thirds of the 367 signing clerks were women, and of those, two-thirds were single. Many were young, in their teens or twenties. Most were of high social standing, privileged, educated, and with excellent penmanship. Financial need was important, but the jobs typically went to a higher social class, often with nepotism.

What were the consequences of this decision by the Confederate Treasury to have two hand-signatures on each note? One consequence was an enormous administrative cost to the Treasury. We estimate that the Confederate Treasury spent about $75 million (adjusted to 2022 dollars) in salaries to the signers. Beyond this cost were salaries for other clerks that hand-numbered or hand-dated notes, and for the signing supplies including pens, ink, and clamps. Furthermore, having signing clerks required infrastructure, such as buildings, desks and other furniture, and salaries of chief clerks who managed the signing clerks. These costs significantly raised the cost of affixing two hand-signatures on every Treasury note. The Confederate Treasury recognized this cost in dollars and effort, and recommended to the Confederate Congress to allow it to machine print signatures. But Congress did not allow this. Why? One likely factor is that Congress considered the hiring of signing

clerks as a form of welfare, of course for the upper class who found themselves in need.

A second consequence of this decision to hand sign notes was not intended but was of enormous and long-lasting social consequences. The war-time Confederate government employment of Treasury ladies affected their roles and relationships at home, as it gave them experiences, opportunities, and responsibilities that women never had before. It also gave these women post-war work opportunities and choices that women before them never had. Would those Treasury ladies who were single take the more

***Confederate Treasury note signing clerks:***
***Above - Susan A. Talley, Etta Kelly, Amy Yates Snowden***
***Below - Mary S. Nicholas Tiernan, Lizzie Elliott, Henrietta P. Heriot***



traditional role of young women and get married and raise a family? Or would they choose to continue working, for the government or in other occupations and careers? If they chose to pursue a career, would they also be able to marry and have

children? Perhaps they would choose to sacrifice that path, or even consider it a liberation. Susan Barber showed that while white wage-earning women comprised only 1.6% of the free labor in the Richmond workforce in 1860, by 1870 this figure had risen to 9.9%. As for the Treasury ladies, after the war, many of them had significant public lives and exceptional accomplishments. Many continued careers with the government, either state or national. Others had careers as writers, educators, school administrators, scientists, inventors, and community leaders. Many never married.

These women were highly representative, even leaders, in the social transformation that occurred in the post-war South. For example, Susan Archer Talley was a writer and artist, friend and historian of Poe, and Civil War spy and seductress. Etta Kelly was an entomologist, U.S. agricultural commissioner, founder of Charleston Female Academy, educator, and mentor. Amy Yates Snowden co-founded the Home for the Mothers, Widows, and Daughters of Confederate Soldiers. It provided support for poor female dependents of Confederate soldiers. A school, the Confederate Home and College, was established for their children. Mary Spear Nicholas Tiernan was an acclaimed writer of novels, poetry, and short stories including *Two Negatives* about the lives and loves of the Treasury ladies. She was also co-founder of the Woman's Literary Club of Baltimore. Lizzie Elliott was a poet, teacher, and dean at Sam Houston State University. Henrietta Porcher Heriot worked in the U.S. Treasury Post Office and was a powerful role model for her daughters.

Sanders Jamison, Chief of the Treasury-Note Bureau, in his report to Treasury Secretary George Trenholm on October 31, 1864, reflected on their experiment of employing women to do the work previously done by men. Jamison wrote, "*The experiment of employing ladies in the public offices, first instituted by Mr. Memminger, has not only proved a perfect success, but has been the means of relieving the necessities of many who have been driven from their homes and have lost all by the barbarous cruelty of our inhuman foe.*"

Indeed!

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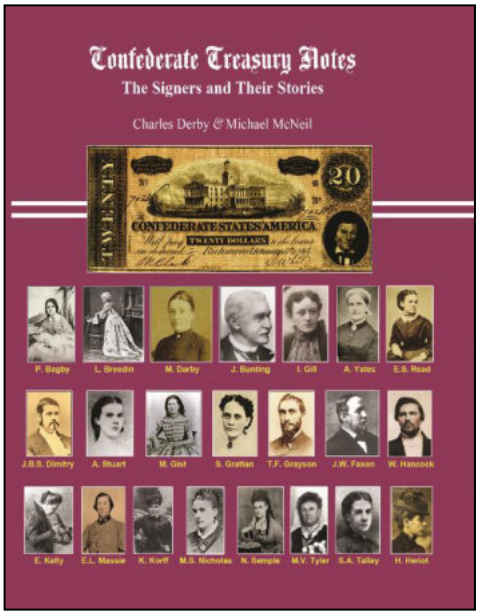


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# Young Collector's News

## Young Numismatist Highlights from the 2022 NCNA Convention and Show

By Bob Pedolsky & Paul Horner

Hello YNs of all ages.

It has been an interesting last quarter of 2022. Let's start with a recap of the very successful NCNA show in October. We had 45 youths participate in the Treasure Hunt. Some of the questions even tested a few of the dealers for the correct answers! The overall topic was gold and one of the questions had a thirteen-part answer!

The **YN Presentation on Saturday and Sunday was entitled "Coin Hoards and Treasure Discoveries"**. Several enthusiastic YNs and parents attended all three presentations with many questions and comments. The following topics were explored:

- Two different collectors that amassed over 500 1856 Flying Eagle cents each.
- The finding of the S. S. Central America that sunk after a hurricane off the coast of North Carolina in September 1857, with all the gold, both coins and bars, that have been recovered.
- The hoard of coins that Col. Edward Howland Robinson Green amassed over his lifetime, including all five 1913 Liberty nickels!
- The U.S. Treasury hoard of Carson City dollars that were distributed by the GSA auctions in the 1970s.
- Spanish Conquistadors that shipped gold and silver back to Spain in the 1500s.
- Miscellaneous other hoards and discoveries.

Two YNs also had excellent exhibits at the show.

- **Cole Kandefer's exhibit** entitled **"Gold in North Carolina"** received the most votes for favorite YN exhibit. It focused on "Gold history in North Carolina beginning with the potato patch to present day."
- **Matthew Devine's exhibit** entitled **"The Evolution of the Peace Dollar"** received almost as many votes. It focused on "A summary of Peace Dollars as a series including the creation of the design, the production process, collecting Peace Dollars as a series, and comparing the 2021 Peace Dollars to the originals produced between 1921 and 1935. Various graded examples of Peace Dollars are also included to support the text."

Both YNs received a BU 2022 silver American Eagle, and Cole received a proof 2022 for receiving the most "Peoples' Choice" votes.

Paul Horner produced a coin press that made aluminum copies of coins. All participants enjoyed making coin impressions, and taking home a memento.

YN Matthew Devine assisted in the YN area for both days. The young collectors who participated in the Treasure Hunt and educational area enthusiastically responded to Matthew. On a personal note, it was just Matthew and me at the YN area for the two days. While I was giving the presentations on “Coin Hoards and Treasure Discoveries”, Matthew manned the YN area alone and did a great job.

At the 2021 NCNA Convention & Show, the **YN program received a large donation** that included three type books with many key coins including a Carson City Morgan Dollar. The donation also contained a set of Lincoln cents, including a 1909-S, 1914-D, 1931-S, and other great coins. They **were auctioned off at the 2022 convention & show** with six dealers bidding. The **winning bid was from Independence Coin of Charlotte**. Between the auction and some small items sold separately, over $2,000.00 was added to the NCNA YN fund. Other donations have come in over the past few months for the NCNA YN fund as well.

So, YN coordinators throughout the state, if you have a qualifying YN, have them **apply for the NCNA scholarship to attend the ANA Summer Seminar in 2024**. The deadline for submission of applications to the NCNA is Dec. 31, 2023.

In closing, I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Try to have fun with the **Treasure Hunt questions** below to start off 2023. Look for the answers somewhere in this edition of the NCNA Journal.

1. The Act of March 3, 1849, authorized two new gold denominations. What are they?
2. What was unusual about the new designs of the $2.50 and the $5.00 gold coins starting in 1908?
3. On June 11, 2021, the 1933 St. Gaudens double eagle sold at auction for what amount?
4. Between regular issue coins, commemoratives, U.S. pattern coins, and bullion coins, there have been thirteen different gold denominations. Can you list them all?
5. St Gaudens and what president agreed that there should not be a certain motto on what two coins in 1907? What are the two coins, what was the motto and who was the president?
6. What were the four gold coins made for the Pan-Pac and what was very unusual about one of them?

# Personifications on Roman Coins

By Perry Siegel

Roman gods and goddesses were often depicted on ancient Roman coins. They bore striking similarities to the gods found in Greek Mythology. Jupiter possessed similar qualities to Zeus, Minerva the same for Athena, and so on, and with seven of our eight planets also named after certain Roman gods (Uranus being the lone dissenter). The Romans went a step further and developed a great many allegorical personifications which represented certain virtues and concepts. These personifications are evident on many of the ancient Roman coins we see in collections today.

***Gold aureus of Lucillia, wife of Lucius Verus, with our neighboring planet the goddess Venus holding an apple and scepter.***

**Definition of Personification:** The attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something nonhuman, or the representation of an abstract quality in human form.

**Victoria** known as 'Victory' is one of the most common personifications seen on Roman coins. She is always winged and often holds a wreath or palm branch, erects or carries a trophy of arms, or inscribes a shield. She was a symbol of military success as the Roman Empire was typically either fighting to increase its territories or protecting them from attack. By contrast, two personifications rarely seen on coins are Ops and Tranquilitas. Ops is Latin for 'Wealth', and personifies such, as well as power and prosperity. The wife of Saturn, she grasps grain ears or a scepter, and interestingly only appears on coins of Antoninus Pius and

Pertinax. Tranquilitas or ‘Tranquility' is seen holding a staff or capricorn. This personification was hardly ever used on coins, perhaps because tranquility was rarely the situation in Rome!

***Bronze sestertious of Antoninus Pius with Victory in flight carrying a trophy of arms.***

**Concordia** meaning ‘Concord’ and harmony, often holds a patera and cornucopia, an olive branch or flower. Often coins with Concordia in the legend will show two figures such as Concordia and the emperor shaking hands or two clasped hands signifying harmony between the two entities. One ironic example of those clasped hands are the double denarii or antoniniani of Pupienus and Balbinus, who co-ruled for a few short

***Gold aureus of Lucius Verus clasping hands with co-emperor Marcus Aurelius in true harmony.***

months in A.D. 238 but whose relationship was anything but harmonious. A somewhat related personification is Pax signifying ‘Peace'. She is often depicted holding an olive branch and scepter. Propaganda was in full practice here as the Romans were quick to let the people know through their coins that their armies were able to guarantee peace within the provinces of the Roman Empire.

**Indulgentia** ‘Indulgence' personifies gentleness or leniency and typically holds a scepter and sometimes a patera. The coin of Caracalla pictured below is thought to commemorate his mother Julia Domna's indulgence following the murder of Geta. Upon the death of their father Septimius Severus in A.D. 211, Caracalla and Geta inherited the throne together as per their father’s wishes. However, the brothers continuously argued and

after abandoning the idea of dividing the empire in half along the Bosphorus, with Caracalla to rule in the west and Geta the east, they convened for a reconciliation meeting organized by their mother, Julia Domna, where Caracalla promptly had Geta assassinated by the

***Indulgentia depicted on a silver denarius of Caracalla.***

Praetorian Guard. Geta is said to have died in his mother's arms, with Caracalla then striking a coin expressing his gratitude for his mother's indulgence. Of course, she probably saw no other choice if she were to remain alive!

**Abundantia** was the personification of 'Abundance' and prosperity. She was a beautiful goddess who is seen emptying fruit from her cornucopia or 'horn of plenty', or holding a cornucopia and grain ears. She was known for bringing grain in a cornucopia to the mortals while they slept. In Roman mythology, Hercules, during one of his missions, broke off one of Achelous' horns in battle, which was in turn taken up by the Naiads (freshwater nymphs), converted into a cornucopia and granted to Abundantia. A similar personification was Annona, the goddess of the 'Harvest'. She is also often seen holding a cornucopia and grain ears, and if not for the legend with her name can be difficult to differentiate from Abundantia. However, some assistance comes our way as there is sometimes a ship's prow in the background, alluding to the transport of grain in the harbor of Rome. The imported grain harvest was of course a matter of great concern to the people of Rome.

***Abundantia emptying the fruit from her cornucopia on a silver denarius of Severus Alexander.***

***The Three Monetae signifying the three metals used for coinage on a bronze medallion of Gordian III.***

**Moneta**, Latin for 'Money', personifies the mint, coinage, and money in general. She typically holds scales and a cornucopia, and is sometimes shown in trio as the *Three Monetae* representing the three metals used for coinage (gold, silver, and bronze). This type is most often seen on large medallions rather than coins. Also assuming the title of Moneta was Juno Moneta, who was regarded as the protectress of the city's funds. During the Roman Republican period the mint was situated next to the temple of Juno Moneta on the Capitoline Hill overlooking the Roman Forum. The mint was eventually moved to another location near the Colosseum during the reign of the emperor Domitian.

**Libertas**, the personification of 'Liberty' or the restoration of freedom, was the patron of freed slaves in Rome. According to Roman tradition, when a master was to grant a slave his or her freedom, they went to the

***Gold aureus of Nerva with Libertas holding cap and rod.***

***Gold aureus of Septimius Severus with Liberalitas holding a counting board.***

Temple of Liberty in Rome. There, a Roman official would grant the slave their freedom by touching them with a *vindicta* rod in honor of Vindicus, a famous slave. The freed slave would then shave their head and receive a white woolen cap known as a *pileus*. Because of that, the *vindicta* rod and white cap became symbols of the goddess Libertas and she is often portrayed holding them in her hands. This same cap appears on very early US coins. Libertas, not unlike other Roman goddesses, has served as the inspiration for many personifications throughout history, bearing her name or image on coins throughout the world. One example is the Great Seal of France, created in 1848. This image later influenced French sculptor Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi in his creation of the Statue of Liberty, the wonderful gift from the French people. Not to be confused with Libertas is Liberalitas, whose legends are very similar. One needs to identify the unique attribute in the figure's hand; Liberalitas or 'Generosity' holds a counting board (*abacus*) and cornucopia.

**Geographic locations** were also often displayed as personifications. There are many depicted and each have their distinctive attributes. Travel throughout the ancient world was hazardous and uncomfortable, even for the elite. Yet remarkably, the Roman emperor Hadrian spent half of his 21-year reign on the road, visiting almost every province of the vast empire! He commemorated those visits on coins known today as his 'travel series', with each province included. One such visit was to Britannia, where during his stay construction began on the 73-mile fortified barrier on Britain's northern frontier still known today as Hadrian's Wall.

***Britania seated on a sesertius of Hadrian commemorating his visit.***

There are **many more personifications** appearing on Roman coins, too numerous to cover in this article. Aequitas holding scales personified 'Equity' and fairness; Asclepius was the god of healing and medicine; Pietas for 'Piety' or dutifulness; Aeternitas meaning 'Eternity' often seen

holding a globe, phoenix (for rebirth) or heads of the sun and moon; Clementia for 'Clemency'; Fecunditas personifying fruitfulness and fertility and often accompanied by a child or children; Fortuna 'Fortune" most

***Genius of the People depicted on a bronze follis of the usurper Domitius Domitianus***

commonly found on Roman Imperial coins; Nemesis a winged avenger-goddess who punished those guilty of wrongdoing and assured fair distribution; and on and on. Of interest is the vast majority of personifications were female. Two exceptions are **Genius** who personifies the 'Spirit' or positive qualities of his subject, which was most often stated as the genius of the people, and he is typically shown almost fully nude, and Honos 'Honor', particularly of the military.

A final personification worth highlighting are the **Four Seasons**, signifying spring, summer, fall, and winter. They are often seen as four active boys at play, as a symbol of happy times. Spring with a basket of flowers on his head, Summer with a sickle, Fall with a rabbit held by its forelegs and a plate of fruit, and Winter in hood with a hare or bird on a stick. Regardless of the course of human history, the four seasons remain unchanged, winter turning to spring, spring to summer, summer to autumn, and autumn back to winter, forever and ever, bringing with them fruitfulness and happy times.

***The Four Seasons on a silver denarius of Caracalla.***

*All images courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group.*

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# A Blast from the Past …

By: Daniel M. Freeman, NCNA LM#113

WARNING: This is a personal opinion piece or thoughts from the peanut gallery, if you will. It is written in an "interactive format". You may be asked to spell certain words. You may be asked to speak certain words. Proceed with caution.

You know, coins and currency of the United States used to be beautiful items. Images of "Lady Liberty" and fierce looking eagles adorned our coins. Artistically crafted vignettes were showcased on our currency. But in time, politicians became involved in the design process and we started placing past Presidents and other political figures on everything. No more majestic Indian Head Cents, just old worn out "Abe". Speaking of worn out, I think George Washington has worn out his welcome on the one dollar bill and the Washington Quarter for sure. While a lot of changes have been made to the quarter over the past forty years, my vote still goes for a "Lady Liberty". An Eisenhower Dollar? Come on man! I think Ike did a great job during World War II, and the Interstate Highway System he created just may be the smartest idea any politician ever had for this country. But can you spell U-G-L-Y? The coin has no detail at all. It is impossible to grade, and the clad composition gives most of them a terrible color over time…I could say more about the Ike, but I'm getting upset … images of Susan B. Anthony started coming to mind… so let me take a few minutes.

Okay, I'm better now, but while I was hyperventilating I was thinking about the U.S. Navy. You know naval vessels use to always have names steeped in history and tradition, like the Lexington, the Enterprise, and the Constitution. Now we have the USS Jimmy Carter and the USS Gerald R. Ford. Both were fine, honest men but, can you say CLUSTER? Please, US Navy brass didn't have enough sense or cities and states to continue naming our ships? So the politicians had to get involved. When I was young, I never listened to my father, but he was a very smart man. He use to always say "If you want a good thing screwed up, get a lawyer or a politician involved ". When I start thinking about lawyers and politicians, a primordial urge engulfs me. I had to check the Funk & Wagnall's on the primordial thing. I would really like to give these people a piece of my mind. You'll have to hold on now for a few minutes, I'm too worked up. I got to go to the fridge, a Coors Light is needed and the Allman Brothers "Ramblin Man".

Let's get back on track now. In 1986 the mint did a fantastic job designing the "Silver Eagle". Nothing ugly about this coin! Nothing political either. Why can't this be done with our everyday circulating money? POLITICIANS are why. Everyone wants their political views expressed or

certain causes pacified. I keep waiting for a politician somewhere with some "sand" to state the obvious. Politics has no place on our circulating money supply. It's U-G-L-Y in more ways than one. Taking Andrew Jackson off the twenty dollar bill and replacing his likeness with Harriet Tubman does nothing to heal the country. Replacing both of them with a beautiful scene from Yellowstone or some other National Park would do the trick. No more politics, just majestic beauty. Everyday circulating money should not be biased or compromised in any fashion. If they just have to have their "fix", let them use the commemorative program where their constituents can purchase the "flavor of the month" from the mint. And just so you know, I do realize I expressed this earlier, but … "If you want a good thing screwed up, get a lawyer or a politician involved."

Until next time…

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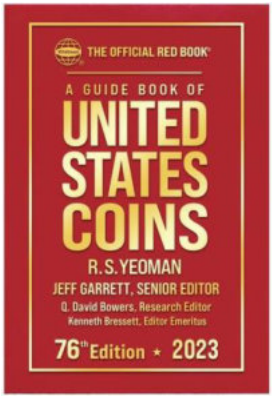
Look it up in the REDBOOK" is a column to test your knowledge of

# Look it up in the RED BOOK




U.S. coins using R.S. Yeoman's well known "A Guide Book of United States Coins - **THE OFFICIAL RED BOOK"**. With this column we challenge journal readers with questions that can be answered in this great reference on U.S. coins.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** We want to hear your ideas and suggestions for future editions of this column. Please **email your suggested themes and matching questions** to Greg Cheek at ghcheek@earthlink.net.

Who knows! Your idea could be featured in "Look it up in the RED BOOK" in the next edition of the NCNA Journal.

**ANSWERS to the TREASURE HUNT questions on page 36:**

1. One Dollar and Twenty Dollar (or double eagle)
2. Incuse
3. $18.9 million
4. 10c, 25c 50c, $1, $2.50, $3, $4, $5, $10, $20, $25, $50, $100
5. In God We Trust, $10, $20, Teddy Roosevelt
6. $1, $2.50, $50 round, $50 octagonal

# ♣ News from the Clubs ♣

*Go to the NCNA website **NCNA.club** for the most recent updates on local club contacts, information, and news.*

## Attention NCNA Member Coin Clubs!

## The *NCNA Journal* needs your club news and updates on your club's activities!

**Club leaders:** ***Please have your representative send updates to the Journal regarding your club's activities as well as obituaries of members who recently passed away.***

Updates should be sent to Greg Cheek at ghcheek@earthlink.net or Greg Cheek – NCNA, PO Box 185, Yadkinville, NC 27055.

Thanks in advance for your help with keeping other NCNA members updated and aware of your club's organization changes, events and projects.

# NCNA Classifieds

Current NCNA members may place a free, text-only buy/sell/trade ad in the *NCNA Journal*. Ads are limited to 50 words (more as space allows). Ads from non-members will be considered as space allows; cost for non-members is 25¢ per word (minimum of 20 words). The NCNA reserves the right to edit ads to fit the available space, and to refuse ads at its discretion.

**FOR SALE:** Complete sets of wooden nickels used to promote the Raleigh Money Expo™. Years included: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018; six in total. $6.00 per set, postage included. Contact info@raleighcoinclub.org or send payment to RCC / PO Box 99601 / Raleigh, NC 27624. Visit www.RaleighCoinClub.org to view the woods (under "Club Collectibles").

**FOR SALE:** Complete set of US Commemorative set of half dollars including the Lafayette Dollar and the Isabella Quarter. There are also extra coins such as the Grant with Star, Missouri 2x4, and Alabama 2x2. Very nice set of high grade coins. Contact Eric Dailey at ericdaily@roadrunner.com or 704-880-2925.

***Your ad can be here in the next issue of the* NCNA Journal!**

# *NCNA Membership Benefits*

The NCNA was established to bring together those interested in numismatics and to foster a sharing of numismatic knowledge through its publications, its annual Convention and its support of local coin clubs. NCNA membership is open to collectors, dealers and clubs.

***Why Join the NCNA?***

- **Fellowship:** Become part of a numismatic community that stretches from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks!
- ***NCNA Journal*:** Receive an award-winning quarterly magazine with informative articles, NCNA organizational updates and the latest news from member clubs.
- **Discounts on Books & Supplies**: Receive a 10% discount on numismatic books and supplies from participating dealers.
- **Annual Convention:** The NCNA hosts one of the larger coin and currency shows in North Carolina each year, featuring local and regional dealers.
    - NCNA members can enter the Convention bourse 30 minutes before the general public. (Valid NCNA membership card must be shown.)
- **Local Clubs:** The NCNA can assist with the organization of a new club or the ongoing support of an existing club. Contact us if you need assistance!
- **Club Liaison Program:** A program that brings together club representatives from across the state to exchange ideas and collaborate on improving the club experience for all members.
- **Annual Awards:** Each year the NCNA presents awards to those who have contributed to the advancement of the hobby through their support of the organization and/or the sharing of their expertise with other collectors.

# *Young Collector Program*

The NCNA offers an educational program specifically designed for young collectors. The program was created to help develop the next generation of collectors by encouraging today's youth to become active in coin and paper money collecting.

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## *2023 NCNA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule*

All NCNA BOD meetings are open to the NCNA membership. BOD meetings are scheduled on Saturday, immediately following the close of the coin show bourse and times are TBD. ***Please note that the BOD meeting scheduled for September 30 is actually the Annual NCNA General Membership Meeting at Cabarrus Arena at 8:30 AM. All members of the NCNA are encouraged to attend.***

| Meeting Location | Date |
|---|---|
| Charlotte Coin Club Show - Charlotte | Feb. 10, 2023 |
| Azalea Festival Coin Show - Wilmington | April 15, 2023 |
| Raleigh Money Expo - Raleigh Coin Show - Raleigh | June 17, 2023 |
| Iredell-Statesville Coin Club Show - Statesville | Aug. 12, 2023 |
| NCNA Convention - General Membership - Concord | Sept. 30, 2023 |
| Carolina Coin & Stamp Show – Raleigh | Nov. 18, 2023 |

## *NCNA Local Club Outreach & Coordination*

NCNA BOD Directors Bill Graves and Danny Freeman have reached out to local clubs for updated contact and other information, which has been posted on the NCNA website. They are continuing to reach out to local coin clubs and facilitate forums for sharing ideas and forming partnerships. Please feel free to contact Bill or Danny, as they are very interested in your ideas and suggestions.

## *NCNA Website (http://www.NCNA.CLUB)*

The NCNA website is an important tool for sharing information with the membership. Alan Stullenbarger currently serves as our webmaster, with Perry Siegel providing administration for the website. Local club representatives should send all local club contact updates and news to Perry Siegel. Please send all coin and stamp show updates to Bill Graves.

## *NCNA Facebook Page & Other Social Media (www.facebook.com/NCCollector)*

The NCNA Facebook page is another important tool for sharing information with the membership and beyond. Paul Landsberg has taken on Facebook administrative activities for our page, exploring fresh ideas in utilizing other social media to promote our hobby. Please feel free to share your ideas and suggestions with Paul in the social media arena. This is still a fairly under explored area and much more can be done to use it to promote the hobby.

# North Carolina Numismatic Association

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## *Appointed Positions*

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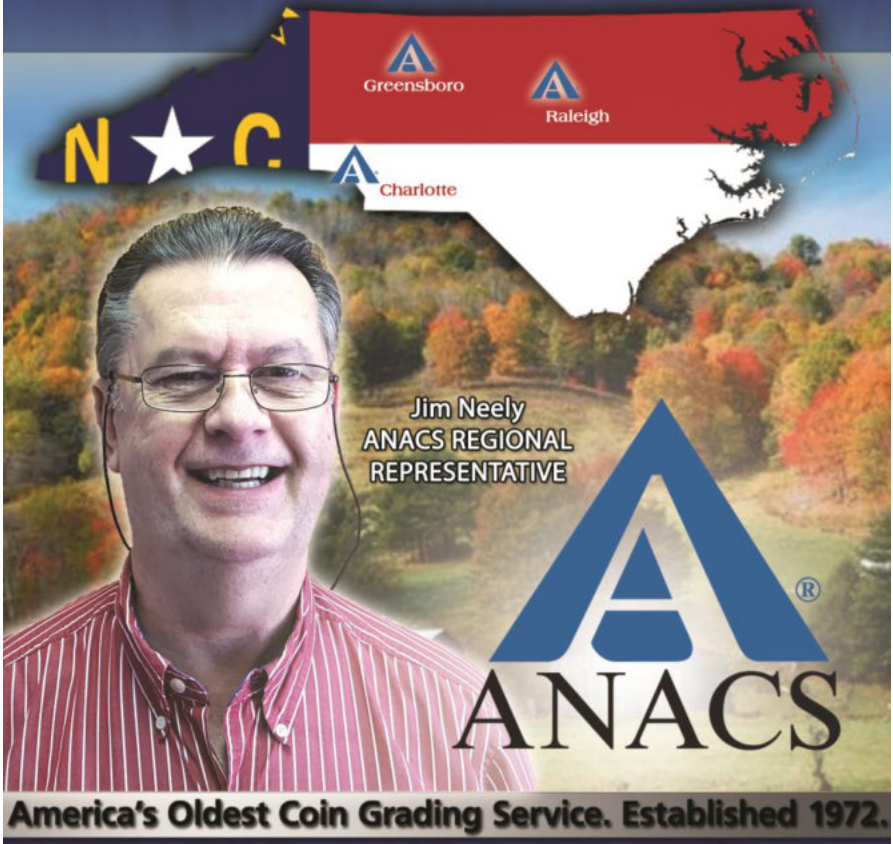


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